

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A consumable flash tube for encapsulating igniter material in
the propellant beds of propelling charges or rocket motors. The
flash tube is constructed of a combustible, plastic material such
as cellulose nitrate plastic or ethyl cellulose plastic. The
5 combustible material is furnished with a filler of electrical
charge dissipating material which renders the flash tube conductive.
The conductive flash tube functions as an environmental housing and
additionally as a grounded electrical conductor or Faraday shield
so as to bleed off any inadvertent electrical charge presented to
10 the flash tube and thus limit the charge transferred to the ig-
niter material. Formation of the flash tube is by continuous
extrusion of a mixture of the plastic material and electrical
charge dissipating material into the shape of a hollow tube. After
curing of the extruded tube, one end of the tube is flared to
allow joining of the tube to a primer after the igniter material
15 is positioned in the flash tube.